If a complaint is received regarding charging of fee in contravention of the above provision, action is taken against the defaulter school as per the provision of the said Act, and a direction is issued to the School to comply with the law.

Discrimination against Scheduled Castes at temples

*208 SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of all those temples in the country where Scheduled Castes are not permitted to enter; and

(b) whether Government are planning any special steps to prevent this?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Preventing any person from entering any place of public worship which is open to persons professing the same religion is an offence under Section 3(a) of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. It is punishable with imprisonment for a term of not less than one month and not more than six months and also with fine which shall not be less than one hundred rupees and not more than five hundred rupees. The Act is implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

Expansion of DTH services

*209. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the urgent need for expansion of DTH services to cater to the local aspirations *i.e.* new channels should be made available on DTH services for regional and subjects specific needs;

(b) how the lack of trained personnel which is a perennial problem, is proposed to be dealt with; and

(c) whether his Ministry has implemented the recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission that proposed drastic down-sizing?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir. The DTH bouquet of

Doordarshan's DTH service, "DD Direct Plus", presently consists of thrity-three (19 Doordarshan and 14 private) TV channels. The Government has already permitted Doordarshan to raise the number of TV channels in its DTH bouquet from the existing thirty-three to fifty, thereby augmenting the base of more number of Free-to-Air private TV channels. Prasar Bharati has also started examining the technical and commercial feasibility to further expand the capacity of DTH platform to cover one hundred channels. As for All India Radio, the expansion scheme is aimed at increasing the number of existing twelve AIR channels to twenty. Two new classical Music channels besides four Regional language channels and additional FM Rainbow channels are planned.

As for private DTH players, A.S.C. Enterprises Ltd. have been issued the licence on 16th Sept. 2003. They have also started their operations from 2nd Oct. 2003 and a total of ninety-nine channels catering to regional and subject specific needs are bieng offered in their DTH bouquet. Letters of Intent have also been issued to two more applicants, *viz.* Tata Sky Ltd. and Sun Direct T.V. Private Ltd. for starting DTH service in the country.

(b) Training of staff is a continuous process and due priority is being assigned to training of their staff by both AIR and Doordarshan. Training is imparted for the staff in Administrative, Engineering and Programme Wings in the Training Institutes of Prasar Bharati. A sum of Rs. 15 crore has already been provided under the Tenth Plan Scheme for augmentation of the training facility for which necessary proposals have been submitted to the Planning Commission. Doordarshan is also organizing foreign training programmes by tie-up with the suppliers of the equipment. Training is also being imparted in the country by inviting experts from the manufacturers' organization concerned. About a thousand engineering officials are being imparted training every year both in the Training Institutes as well as by the equipment suppliers.

(c) The Expenditure Reforms Commission (ERC) had recommended:-

(i) Abolition of 5,603 posts in the Ministry [other than Prasar Bharati]; and

(ii) An independent review of staffing norms for Prasar Bharati as per the actual requirements by engaging a management institution of repute; and implementation of the Assessment Report, 1995 of the Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) for abolition of 1,507 posts for Prasar Bharati.

In pursuance of ERC's recommendations for the Ministry (other than Prasar Bharati), 785 posts have been abolished so far and in pursuance of the ERC's recommendations for Prasar Bharati with regard to the implementation of Assessment Report, 1995 of SIU, 1,090 posts have been abolished so far.

Setting up of Khadi and Village Industries in Andhra Pradesh

*210. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Khadi and Village Industries set up under various programmes of Government through KVIC in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) how many million square metres of cotton khadi items have been manufactured by Khadi and Village Industries in the State during the last five years, year-wise, alongwith the value of these products;

(c) the number of persons employed in cotton khadi sector in the State during the last five years, year-wise; and

(d) the assistance Government are providing to the State's efforts to promote Khadi and Village Industries in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) 78 registered khadi institutions are implementing the schemes/programmes relating to khadi in Andhra Pradesh. The year - wise details of Village Industry (VI) units set up in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years (upto January 2006) under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) being implemented by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), are given below:

Year	Number of units set up
2001-02	797
2002-03	1818
2003-04	1079
2004-05	1988
2005-06*	1447

* upto January 2006.